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Approved For Release 2003/06/17 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003400100026-0

20 January 1951

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION *no. 3*

SUBJECT: Intelligence Support for OSO

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Allen Evans, Department of State  
Mr. Charles Stelle, Department of State  
Mr. James Angleton, Central Intelligence Agency  
Mr. James Q. Reber, Central Intelligence Agency

1. The discussion centered around two subjects:
  - a. Detailed area research necessary for briefing of OSO operatives and preparation of questions for collection by the operatives, and
  - b. The relationship of what is known generally as International Communism on the one hand and Communist Party apparatus on the other, and where the responsibility for intelligence production in this field or fields should be located.

2. Responsibility for the receipt of OSO requirements on Point (a.) above and for the securing of research production from the appropriate part of the Government and for the collation of the results should be in the Central Intelligence Agency. It was Mr. Angleton's view that this would have to be outside of OSO (the best location is probably in ORR).

3. With respect to Point (b.) above, it was agreed by Stelle and Angleton that International Communism and so-called CP apparatus were inseparable. Mr. Evans wished to explore further the possibility of a separation. Mr. Evans and Mr. Stelle were considerably impressed by Mr. Angleton's view that the aggressive analysis of International Communism and the CP apparatus was of major importance and that the bureaucratic problems presented by the continued reluctance of some agencies such as ONI and the FBI to provide results of their research and long experience could hardly be overcome by placing of this responsibility in any of the departmental intelligence agencies but rather would require the authority and full support of the Director of Central Intelligence.

4. With respect to Point (a.) above, Reber undertook to pursue this subject further with Mr. Millikan and report back to the participants of this discussion. With respect to Point (b.) above, Angleton undertook to

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17 January 1961

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION No. 2

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1. Mr. Reber and [ ] had luncheon on the 16th of January with Mr. James Angleton of OSO. The discussion turned about problems of support for OSO in the light of the reorganization, especially that involving ORR. There was an examination of OSO's need for three categories of support:

- (1) Studies on Communist Party activities.
- (2) Special regional studies.
- (3) Biographic information.

2. As to (1), there was indicated a need for a group of high intellectual calibre to produce integrated and organized studies on Communist Party activities. Such studies would be of such a degree of detail as would be of value to operations (as opposed to policy). They would be based on research and on highly classified information in the possession of OSO. Such a Communist Party intelligence group might be possibly established in ORR, State or OSO.

3. Comment: There appear to be two distinct needs to be filled by organized information on Communist Party activities: (1) the policy need, which is for the broader picture involving the examination of CP activities as a guide to future developments and as a possible indicator of courses of Soviet action; and (2) the operational need for a detailed picture of the organization and operation of Communist Party units. The difference in objective as well as the differing degree of detail required suggests the need for separate units to handle these two requirements, or at least of a Communist Party intelligence group which allows internal specialization along these lines.

4. On (2), there is a need for continuing intensive studies of a high degree of detail (as opposed to the extensive NIS studies) on specific regional units. This requires extensive research and continuous access to materials in the other IAC agencies. The use of the NIS machinery was suggested as a possible device by which this need might be met.

5. On (3) the special needs of OSO, both as an important producer of biographic information and as a user were recognized as stemming from the security problem. The possibility of a closer relationship between OSO's biographic needs and a centralized biographic register depends upon direct OSO-RR contact and upon an overall review of the biographic question.

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6. Security considerations were said by Mr. Angleton not to be his major concern in any of these problems, but he appeared reluctant to see these support functions pass out of CIA. The adequacy of OIR, both as to personnel and as to its interest in performing such support functions were questioned. This will be examined in a conversation to be arranged between Mr. Angleton and Mr. Evans.

7. Action:

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- a. Mr. Reber is to arrange a meeting between Mr. Evans and Mr. Angleton.
- b. Mr. Angleton will arrange to examine the biographic problem with [ ] of OCD.
- c. The appropriate study of international Communism is to be further examined in the conversation between Mr. Evans and Mr. Angleton, and in O/IC.

JAMES C. REBER  
Acting Assistant Director  
for Intelligence Coordination

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[ ]  
Mr. Angleton

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